imports have increased by 21.3 per cent and 26.6 per cent respectively during the period April—September and by 26.9 per cent and 27.5 per cent respectively during the period April—January 1988-89. The increase or decline in Foreign Exchange Reserves are dependent on a number of factors such as invisibles, capital transactions etc, besides the trade factors. The Foreign Exchange Reserves stood at Rs. 5460.6 crores at the end of September 1988 and at Rs. 5540.9 crores at the end of January 1989.

(b) The main reasons for increase in imports were higher imports of essential commodities such as food grains and edible oils necessitated by last year's drought, the strong recovery of the economy which necessitated additional machinery, raw materials and other imported inputs to maintain higher levels of industrial production, unusually high prices in international markets for metals and edible oils, etc. The exports have shown an increasing trend throughout the fiscal year 1988-89.

(c) The Import Policy pursued by the Government has helped in achieving a higher growth in exports. The Import Policy is constantly under review by the Government.

Infiltration of Pakistani Spies

3532. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the intelligence agencies had, sometime back sent an alarming report to the Central Government regarding infiltration of Pak spies in the sensitive border areas of Jammu and Kashmir for espionage activities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what follow up action has been taken by Government to check the infiltration of Pak spies into the State of Jammu and Kashmir and also to identify their contracts in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) There were reports that J&K liberation front planned to induct a large quantity of arms and ammunition into the valley for sabotage activities. There were also report that Pakistan|Pakistan occupied kashmir were imparting training to Muslim youths of Kashmir region. These reports were followed by series of sabotage acts. Concerted action by security agencies led to arrest of some youths who on interrogation have confirmed these reports. The State Police arrested 97 youths who had received training across the border. A large quantity of arms and ammunition and explosives materia' have also been recovered from them. Security agencies are making every effort to apprehend the remaining trained youths and arms and ammunition which have infiltrated in the valley from across the border. Security agencies have been alerted to ensure maximum vigil on the border for effectively preventing illegal border crossing as also tightening of the security arrangements on the vital installations in the State. The State Administration have opened certain new police posts in the border region of the Kashmir valley for the above purpose. In order to facilitate the above, night curfew has also been imposed along 2 kms. belt of the line of control in the Kashmir valley.

Environmental impacts of Dams

3533. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a study on environmental impacts of dams in Orissa, several dams are likely to trigger of tremors and that many dams have led to climatic aberrations in their respective regions;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to meet the adverse fall-outs

from the dams and whether any such study has been made in respect of the dams in other States of the country also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Studies conducted by the Indian Meteorological Department in Orissa, conclude that there is no possibility of triggering of tremors on account of construction of dams which can cause any significant damages to the dams and appurtenant works. Besides, as per I.M.D. the data on droughts and floods in the region near Hirakud Dam does not reveal any evidence to suggest that the climatic aberrations have occurred due to creation of reservoir. The safety of dams is taken care of at the design stage as well as during construction by adopting appropriate design parameters. Moreover, inspections are carried out by the dam safety organisations in various States to take care of any distress caused to the dams on account of reservoir filling or otherwise.

Export target for 1989-90

3534. DR. NARREDDY THULASI-REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the export target for 1989-90; and

(b) what steps have been taken by the Central Government to prevent inter-Ministerial wranglings and resultant inordinate delay which are hampering export efforts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) The export target etc. for 1989-90 has not yet been fixed.

(b) The Government has set up high-level bodies such as Cabinet Committee on Exports and Empowered Committee of Secretaries on Export to take decisions on Inter-Ministerial issues relating to export promotion.

Decentralisation of DGS&D's purchasing system

3535. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to decentralise the purchasing system of Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals;

(b) what is the total amount of DGS&D's orders from the entire small scale sector in the country during the last three years; and

(c) what is the share of Andhra Pradesh out of it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) No. Sir.

(b) The total value of purchases made by the DGS&D from the small scale sector in the country during the last three years is given below:—

Year	Value (in crores of Rs.)
1985-86	280.96
1986-87	284.49
1987-88	368.34

The share of small scale units of Andhra Pradesh in the above purchases is as under:

Year	Value (in lakhs of Rs.)
1985-86	275.38
1986-87	297.83
1987-88	319.16

Sharing of Ganga water with Bangladesh

3536. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1572 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd November, 1988 and state :

(a) whether the Task Force has since started its work;